MILLENNIAL STAR

The Monthly Magazine on MORMONISM

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COUNSELLORS SELECTED TO FORM MISSION PRESIDENCY

NOTTINGHAM DISTRICT PRESIDENT WALLACE R. REID
and
LONDON DISTRICT PRESIDENT GEORGE F. POOLE
WILL SERVE AS COUNSELLORS
to
MISSION PRESIDENT SELVOY J. BOYER
in the
NEWLY-FORMED MISSION PRESIDENCY

IN compliance with a request from the First Presidency that all mission presidents select counsellors, President Selvoy J. Boyer has chosen President Wallace R. Reid of the Nottingham District to serve as first counsellor and President George F. Poole of the London District to serve as second counsellor of the British Mission.

The two new counsellors will be set apart for their assignments by President Alma Sonne of the European Mission upon his return to England from Continental Europe on August 7th. Their duties will be that of assisting President Boyer in the administration of the currently expanding British Mission.

President Wallace R. Reid is a member of the La Cienega Ward of the Inglewood Stake, California. He has been active in Church work throughout his life. He has served in the Inglewood Stake Presidency and also as a member of the bishopric of his ward.

Elder Reid arrived in Great Britain on September 12th, 1946, and was assigned to labour in the Nottingham District. On October 21st, he was appointed as Nottingham District President. He has laboured diligently and conscientiously in shaping Nottingham District into one of the outstanding districts in the Mission.

President George A. Poole has been an active member of the London District since his youth. As President of the North London Branch, President Poole was instrumental in the purchasing of the Branch Chapel and in the developing of a strong organisation in North London. As London District President, he has been most successful in his efforts to re-establish those branches which had been amalgamated during the war and has been faithful and energetic in discharging his other duties in that capacity.

★ THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' ★

MILLENNIAL STAR

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EDITOR
Selvoy J. Boyer

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THIS MONTH'S COVER — — — — — — — — HAWAIIAN TEMPLE

AT Laie, on the island of Oahu in the Hawaiian Islands, stands the first Latter-day Saint Temple of the Lord to be built away from the American mainland. This edifice and its surrounding grounds are considered one of the beauty spots of the Islands and are an attraction to almost all visitors to Hawaii. Thousands of tourists visit the temple grounds every year. The Hawaiian Temple was dedicated on November 27th, 1919, by President Heber J. Grant.

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MAN And His DESTINY

By Milton R. Hunter
Of the First Council of the Seventy

WRITTEN ESPECIALLY FOR THE READERS OF THE "MILLENNIAL STAR"

THE ultimate destiny of nations hinges on the philosophy that the people, especially the leaders, hold regarding the worth of human beings. When the life of men and women is regarded as being very cheap, blood, carnage, lasciviousness, bondage, war, and the breaking of all the moral laws of God are the results. Such is the story of many of the nations of the earth today. However, the democracies show a much brighter picture because they hold a greater reverence and higher regard for human life than do the nations which were ruled by dictators or are controlled by Communism. The democracies possess this higher regard for human life because their people have a more keen understanding and deeper appreciation of the worth of each individual. This appreciation was instilled in them through the teachings of Jesus Christ.

In fact, whenever the Gospel has been upon the earth those people who possessed the divine truths have held human beings in high esteem. For example, the ancient Hebrews visualised man in his full stature as a being of majesty, power, and might, superior in intellect, love, and spiritual qualities to all other creatures whom God created. In fact, man to them was the masterpiece of the Lord, organised in His own image and endowed with divine attributes. For example, we read in one of the ancient Psalms:

> **"What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him? For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour."** (1)

It is true, however, that the grandest concept of the worth of man that exists is found in the Gospel of Jesus Christ as established on earth by the Son of God nearly two thousand years ago and re-revealed through the Prophet Joseph Smith over a hundred years ago. Emphasing the worth of each individual, the Saviour proclaimed such parables as the "Lost Sheep" and the "Lost Coin." Throughout His entire teachings He dignified the human family by stressing the actuality of the Fatherhood of God and the universal brotherhood of man. To the Prophet Joseph Smith, He said,

> **"Remember the worth of souls is great in the sight of God; for behold, the Lord your Redeemer suffered death in the flesh; wherefore he suffered the pain of all men, that all men might repent and come unto him. And he hath risen again from the dead, that he might bring all men unto him on conditions of repentance. And how great is his joy in the soul that repenteth."** (2)

Why are human beings so precious in the sight of God? Why is each individual throughout the entire world —the meanest to the greatest—worth so much? What are the teachings of the Gospel of Jesus Christ regarding man and his destiny?

In the first place, man is an eternal being. There never was a time when he did not exist and there never will come a time when he will cease to exist. Four thousand years ago the Lord showed Father Abraham a vision

(1) Psalms 8: 4-5

(2) Doc. and Cov. 18: 10-13

of the spirit world and the intelligences which He had organised into spirit beings before this world was created. While that ancient patriarch was gazing on these spirit beings, the Lord said unto him:

"If there be two spirits, and one shall be more intelligent than the other, yet these two spirits, notwithstanding one is more intelligent than the other, have no beginning, they existed before, they shall have no end, they shall exist after, for they are *gnolaum*, or eternal." (3)

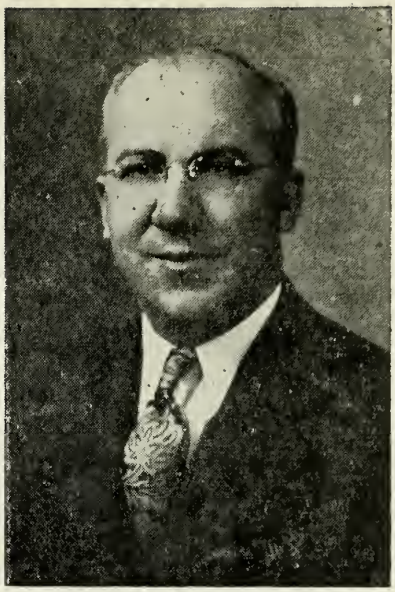
God reiterated this divine truth to the Prophet Joseph Smith in the following words: "Man was also in the beginning with God. Intelligence, or the light of truth, was not created or made, neither indeed can be." (4)

In one of the greatest sermons ever uttered by any prophet of God, Joseph Smith said:

"I have another subject to dwell upon, which is calculated to exalt man. . . . It is associated with the subject of the resurrection of the dead—namely, the soul—the mind of man—the immortal spirit. Where did it come from? All learned men and doctors of divinity say that God created it in the beginning; but it is not so; the very idea lessens man in my estimation. I do not believe the doctrine; I know better. Hear it, all ye ends of the world; for God has told me so.

"We say that God Himself is a self-existent being. Who told you so? Who told you that man did not exist in like manner upon the same principles? . . .

"The mind or the intelligence which man possesses is co-equal (co-eternal) with God Himself. I know that my testimony is true. . . . I am dwelling on the immortality of the spirit of man. Is it logical to say that the intelligence of spirits is immortal, and yet that it had a beginning? The intelligence of spirits had no beginning, neither will it have an end. . . . Intelligence is eternal and exists upon a self-existent principle. It is a spirit from age to age, and there is no creation about it." (5)



Milton R. Hunter

If we are all the same age and are as old as our Eternal Father, then the question naturally arises as to our relationship to God. That problem brings us to our second main point: Man is literally a son of God. In the spirit world, God clothed our self-existing intelligence with spirit bodies and thereby He became our Heavenly Father.

This eternal truth was known throughout the various ages whenever the Gospel has been understood by man. The Old Testament prophets thoroughly understood that all the people of this earth are literally sons and daughters of God, since He begat their spirit bodies. In the ancient Hebrew record, we read: "Let the Lord

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(3) Abraham 3: 18
(4) Doc. and Cov. 93: 29
(5) Joseph Fielding Smith, Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, pp. 352-355

I HAD TO COME TO ZION

By Vivian Meik

AS I write this on the porch of a small home overlooking the valley of the Great Salt Lake I wonder if I am dreaming.

Below me the city nestles in the sunshine of a perfect summer dawn. The scene is beautiful beyond words. I ask myself if it can possibly be true that only ten days ago I wrote "Finis" to eight war scarred years in a metropolis five thousand miles away. "Finis" to those years— and many more before them—years perhaps of achievement, but also of doubts and fears, of suffering and tears.

Here all is peace, a peace that comes dripping slow in the bird-loud glades among the canyons, the peace that only God can give.

That peace lies gently on my shoulders caressing me, soothing me. I have come HOME.

This is not a testimony in the conventional sense. My feelings go much deeper than mere emotion as my thoughts go back to a twenty-five year old question which was the cause of it all.

Some of you may remember it, when I recorded it here in the first article I wrote in these pages. "What have these people got that we haven't?" It was asked about Mormonism in somewhat remarkable circumstances in Central Africa.

At the time I was not particularly interested in the answer, but shortly afterwards a Book of Mormon came into my hands. I flicked it through casually. Then here and there a verse caught my fancy. I began to read. I re-read again and again.

Suddenly it dawned on me that what I was reading was Truth—Truth in its most compelling form. It was elemental Truth, invincible Truth, unchallengeable Truth. Truth which demanded an allegiance.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The author, Vivian Meik, formerly the diplomatic correspondent for "The People," upon his arrival in Salt Lake City, wrote the following article to the Saints of Zion released through the "Church News.' In a letter to the "Millennial Star," Vivian Meik says that he is "literally overwhelmed by the wonder and beauty of Salt Lake City," and the "kindness and welcome" he has received. He extends his best wishes to the Saints of Britain.

As was the case with many others, I tried to dodge this Truth. In my way of life its demands were uncomfortable, to say the least. It threw overboard traditions and beliefs which had become part of my existence.

Realising eventually that I could not escape this Truth, I tried to minimise its value. With that not entirely unknown British weakness for compromise I thought that if I accepted it in principle but kept it in the background, I could get by without any noticeable inconvenience.

But things refused to work out this way. This half-way house of compromise proved neither a haven for my spiritual needs nor a shelter against the slings of the many enemies I discovered this Truth had. I found myself taking hard knocks from both sides in a kind of spiritual no man's-land.

For many weeks I was torn between the two. Material security or spiritual happiness? I had friends in both camps. Their attitude towards me, however, was in marked contrast. While my old friends told me bluntly not be an adjectival fool when I announced my desire to join the Church, my new friends who happened to be members of that Church made no single move to tempt me in.

—continued on page 253

THE BEDROCK OF LIFE

By Alma Sonne

FAITH opens the door to an understanding of God—His character and attributes. A knowledge of God is the basis of right living. Without faith man is forever in the shadows, for a positive belief gives purpose to existence. It inspires the trust and confidence so necessary to man's development.

Nothing can be accomplished without the exercise of faith. It is the compelling force back of all achievement—the motive power of progress.

Faith is constructive for it supplies the urge to do things. A people blessed with faith are progressive, and invincible before difficulties. Israel was delivered from the Egyptian bondage through the exercise of faith. The Pioneers found their way to a home in the West and laid the foundation of a commonwealth in the desert through their faith in God's promises. Without an abiding faith the soul has no anchorage and is "driven with the wind and tossed." (James 1: 6)

Scepticism has no vitality. It offers no programme. It contradicts every claim to a life after death. It robs man of his belief in moral and spiritual values, and destroys his fondest hopes and noblest aspirations. Unbelief is negative and rejects the revelations of God however manifest.

Man's faith in God is an acknowledgment of God's power to save and exalt the human family. It recognises the dietyship of Jesus Christ and accepts His Gospel as the plan of salvation. It puts man in possession of vital information to lead him onward and upward and to inspire him to live in harmony with divine law.

Faith is a gift of God to be developed by prayerful and open-minded investigation. It sets up hope and courage and explores the realms of the unseen. A loss of faith is a tragic setback in the journey towards perfection.

Thomas Didymus lost his faith. The gloom and shame of Golgotha was a

Alma Sonne

European Mission President and Assistant to the Council of the Twelve

crushing blow to his erstwhile ambition. He became sullen and resentful.

"Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe." (John 20: 25). Like the modern sceptic, who goes forward with test tube and microscope only, he refused to believe his eyes. But Jesus knew the texture of the doubting apostle's mind. "Reach hither thy finger," He said, "and behold my hands, and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side; and be not faithless but believing." (John 20: 27) It was an impressive rescue of a mind darkened by doubt and unbelief. Henceforth Thomas was able to walk by faith. Never again did he waver.

To Thomas Didymus was given the last of the beatitudes. It was the last but not the least: "Because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed; blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed." (John 20: 29) Faith is the bedrock of human life.

MICROFILMING IN BRITAIN

By Archibald F. Bennett
General Secretary of the
Genealogical Society of the Church

■

EDITOR'S NOTE: The author, Archibald F. Bennett, is now in Continental Europe arranging an extensive microfilming programme. While in Great Britain, Elder Bennett wrote the following article especially for the readers of the "Millennial Star."

■

THE harvest of records has begun in England. The record field appears vast and white, ready for the harvest. We must thrust in our sickle and reap with might while the day lasts and the summer is at hand.

For 110 years the harvest of souls in this land has been fruitful, through missionary labours among the living. For 110 years parallel preparations have been going on for the more extensive harvest of souls among those of former generations. During all these years men and women, inspired with an ideal and devoted to their labour of love, have ploughed and planted and watered; and today God giveth the increase.

One such devoted worker was John Owen. He lived from 1815-1900; and his whole life was spent in the vicinity of Manchester, England "For more than half a century he devoted his leisure time to the collection of historical and genealogical materials relating to Manchester and the locality." He left behind him as a legacy to posterity eighty volumes, written in his neat hand, of copies of parish registers, monumental inscriptions and genealogical notes on 418 different familes.

"Certain local families are dealt with in great detail, in many cases every entry relating to the family being transcribed from the registers of Manchester and the surrounding parishes. These extracts are in some cases very exhaustive. Of the Hulme family, for instance, there are over two thousand entries, and of the Bradshaws nearly one thousand five hundred. . . .

"Unlike many genealogical and archaeological collections, it is not confined to the great families and great churches and mansions, but deals with the ordinary families and the domestic dwellings, and as a result no local antiquary, especially if he is a genealogist, can afford to neglect it." (**The Index to the Owen Mss.** pp. 3-4)

This invaluable collection is at present carefully preserved in a strong room of the Manchester Free Reference Library, and Elder George Fudge, former President of the Gateshead Branch, is now in that Library with a microfilm camera making copies of it for our Library in Salt Lake City.

In the Manchester Library are similar genealogical collections. One of these was compiled by the late Dr. William Farrer, another painstaking and industrious genealogist. Altogether in this Library our photographer will copy over 57,000 pages, including inscriptions from 13 burial grounds, and transcripts of 43 parish registers (1,230 pp.) made for the Lancashire Parish Register Society. At Liverpool, Preston and Burnley libraries are assembled other records, making the total pages available for copying in Lancashire to approximately 120,600.

Permission has been obtained from the Hereford Public Library to film there 100 family histories, 100 wills, about 7,000 deeds and about 100 transcriptions of parish registers. The Library in Newcastle-on-Tyne has consented for us to photograph their extensive accumulation of pedigrees, wills, monumental inscriptions, deeds and family papers. Likewise, Ipswich Library, in Suffolk, is favourable to our microfilming 707 volumes of transcripts of parish registers and monumental inscriptions made by other lovers of records of the past.

Greatest of all is the record storehouse in the National Library of Wales. By official sanction we may now copy there wills from all of Wales prior to 1858, as well as pedigrees and parish register transcripts.

Prior to this year, as a joint project of the George Cannon Family and the Church Genealogical Society, copies of registers of all seventeen of the parishes in the Isle of Man have been filmed. At Newcastle Library similar transcripts of 123 parish registers of Northumberland and Durham have been copied on microfilm.

Individual parishes are not being neglected. Eleven churches, by consent of the incumbent, have had their registers filmed, including the large parish of Wigan, Lancashire — 56 volumes. We already have permission to photograph registers of upwards of thirty-eight more parishes.

Only last month one Rector, an ex-prisoner-of-war, wrote in, saying:—

> "As I have happy memories of many of your Church I would like to aid you. . . . May I suggest that on any date convenient to you I send the register to you by registered post. You acknowledge and return it by the same way in 7 or 8 days. We would appreciate a microfilm copy."

On July 10th President Selvoy J. Boyer of the British Mission, James R.

—continued on page 256

The enlarged reorganised staff of the Research Department of the British Mission taken during a recent visit of Elder Archibald F. Bennett, General Secretary of the Genealogical Society of the Church. Front row, left to right: Jane Musgrove, Edna Gardner, Archibald F. Bennett, Mission President Selvoy J. Boyer, Lucy Ripley, Muriel Tate. Back row: George Goundry, Lilian Foster, Superintendent James R. Cunningham, Dora Smith, Frank Smith, David E. Gardner. Hilda Woodford was absent when the photograph was taken

LIVERPOOL DISTRICT PROGRESSING

(This is the eighth in a series of articles concerning the various districts of the British Mission. Sister Stella Wood of the Liverpool District writes the following report concerning the District.)

●

THE Liverpool District has seen many changes since its beginning. It was at Liverpool in 1837 that the first Latter-day Saint missionaries arrived in Great Britain. It was Preston where their first meeting was held and where the Restored Gospel was first preached. Many were impressed with its teachings and accepted and were baptised in the River Ribble. From Preston the missionaries spread out to all parts of the British Isles. During the years that followed many people embraced the Gospel. A large number of these converts later emigrated to America.

For a number of years the Mission Headquarters were situated in Liverpool at Old Durham House, 295 Edge Lane. Many fond memories still linger among the members who were associated with it and also among hundreds of missionaries who laboured in the British Mission.

During the last world war, several of the branches of the District were consolidated, leaving only four in operation where there had previously been nine. Liverpool, Preston, Wigan and Burnley carried on faithfully under their able leadership and with the help of the District Presidency. Due to the inaccessableness of the Church to many members, some have drifted away and are not properly on record. An attempt is being made to contact those people and place them on the proper records and re-awaken their Church affiliations and activities.

The presence of so many Latter-day Saint servicemen in the District during the war augmented the effective work of the branches. A good number were returned missionaries and very capable. At a large aerodrome near Wigan, where 3,000 men were stationed, permission was obtained by some of the faithful officers of the Branch to hold M.I.A. meetings, which proved interesting and beneficial. Also, at a camp near Preston, cottage meetings were held weekly.

During the past several months much good has come from contacts made among the German prisoners-of-war, some of whom have already joined the Church. They are fine, faithful young men and filled with the love of the Gospel.

Two branches of the District have recently been re-opened — Blackburn and Accrington. Nelson, Lancaster and Wallasey are to be opened later as their numbers are sufficiently increased.

Only two branches of the District own the chapels in which they meet— Burnley and Liverpool. Both chapels are well suited for the needs of their respective branches.

Liverpool's building, at 301 Edge Lane, was badly damaged during the war, but has recently been repaired and is now most attractive. The Liverpool District Office is located there, as well as the chapel, M.I.A. recreation room, Relief Society room and sufficient class rooms for the largest gatherings. The members of Liverpool are grateful for their fine meeting place. Attendance is steadily increasing.

All are looking forward to greater advancement, progress and spiritual growth in the Liverpool District.

BRADFORD PICTURES AVAILABLE

GROUP pictures taken at the recent Bradford Conference are available at the **Millennial Star** office as follows: Missionary pictures, 1s.; Relief Society pictures, 1s.; District Presidents' pictures, 1s. 6d.

NEW PROPERTY ACQUIRED — OLD PROPERTY RENOVATED

By Frank Smith
South London Branch

■

ALL readers of this magazine will take great interest in items which indicate the steady growth of the Mission, now that the missionaries are here in large numbers and the Church is able to purchase new property and renovate old.

After being closed for two years, the Northampton Branch of the Birmingham District has been re-opened at the same address, St. Michael's Road. The building has been re-modelled and beautifully decorated. The first services, held on June 13th, were well attended and were presided over by District President Charles L. Norton. The local Saints and travelling missionaries stationed there have done a splendid job in preparing the way for the re-opening of the Branch.

When the Barnsley Branch of the Sheffield District was recently re-opened, meetings were held in the homes of the Saints. Finally, after much effort by the local members and the missionaries, an appropriate place was found and appraised. This meeting place, located at 34 Victoria Road, is a large house and quite suitable for the local needs. Two large rooms, separated by folding doors, will make an adequate chapel. There are also ample facilities for classes and entertainments. The house has already been partly furnished and it is hoped that final alterations will soon be completed. This is a vast improvement over the meeting-house the Saints of Barnsley met in previous to their amalgamation with Sheffield. With added missionary strength, the Branch here is expected to forge ahead once again.

During the war-time amalgamation, many Saints in the Manchester, Hyde, Denton, and adjacent areas, had been transferred to the Oldham or Rochdale

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Dedicatory Services of the Northampton Chapel held on July 13th under the direction of Birmingham District President Charles L. Norton

CINEMA-LECTURE
New Proselyting Mode

IN THIS STREAMLINED AGE OF JET-PROPULSION AND PUSH-BUTTON MACHINERY, THE CHURCH IS PRESENTING THE GOSPEL IN A NEW AND DIFFERENT WAY—A COMBINED TECHNICOLOUR MOTION PICTURE SHOW AND LECTURE

AS every major business firm in the country is constantly utilising all practical ideas and techniques in the advertisement of its products, so the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is using all feasible ideas and techniques in the propagation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

One of the most unique methods ever used in preaching the Gospel in Great Britain is a combination cinema-lecture as is now being presented to the various districts of the British Mission by Elder Guy L. Merkley.

To see just how it works, let's pretend that you are an active member of a club or organisation—Tec H, Y.M.C.A., or whatever you wish. Let's further pretend that you have never seen a member of the Mormon Church, that you know nothing of Mormon doctrine, and that Mormonism is about the furthest thing from your mind. Then one day at the club you notice that the programme for the following Tuesday is listed as something like this: "Utah and Mormonism—Technicolour Motion Picture and Lecture by Mr. Guy L. Merkley of Salt Lake City."

On Tuesday at seven o'clock the members of your club are all assembled and you are in your customary seat rather anxious to get a good look at Mr. Merkley. Perhaps you have envisaged him as a bewhiskered gentleman, bent and grey. If so, you receive a rude shock upon the club president's introduction of Mr. Merkley. There stands a man in his early twenties, clean-cut, alert, robust and beaming with enthusiasm.

Perhaps the programme commences with a male quartette or trio, composed of Mr. Merkley and two or three missionaries who are announced as residents of your town. The lights are then dimmed and a motion picture show of Utah and her people filmed in brilliant technicolour is flashed on the screen before you. The voice of the narrator on the film begins to tell of many interesting facts about a state which you probably know little about. For the next fifteen or twenty minutes you sit back in your seat and enjoy the beauty and colour of scenic Utah.

It is now Mr. Merkley's turn on the programme. As he begins to tell of a Heavenly manifestation received by a boy of fourteen, and of gold plates buried in a hill, and of a strange book containing the history of the inhabitants of the American continent of old, you note the earnestness and sincerity with which the message is delivered.

As you listen further, you hear of the Restored Gospel of Christ, of the pilgrimage of the Mormon Pioneers, and of the Zion in the tops of the mountains. You learn that Salt Lake City is not circumscribed by a huge prohibitive wall. And you also learn that Mormons adhere strictly to monogamy. You learn that the Mormon people are energetic and industrious; that they are cultured and well-educated; that they are morally clean and spiritually sound.

At the close of the lecture you find that Mr. Merkley and the accompanying missionaries have impressed your colleagues just as they have impressed you. If your club responds, as most other clubs do, Mr. Merkley will be flooded with handshakes and requests for more information concerning the Gospel.

Although this new approach in the presentation of the Gospel has only been in operation a short time, Elder Merkley has already appeared before 3,500 club members, students, and affiliates of various organisations. Many Books of Mormon have been placed in the hands of people who have never before heard of the Gospel. Many hundreds of tracts and pamphlets have been distributed.

Elder Merkley first presented his cinema-lecture to organisations in the Nottingham District. The programme was very well received. In introducing the Elders at the Central Nottingham Y.M.C.A. the organiser announced, "After having spent the day with these people I am of the opinion that they are the cleanest living persons in the world today, so forget anything you might have previously heard about them." After lectures in youth organisations and the Ladies' Adult Education Society in Hucknall, Elder Merkley travelled on to Hull.

At Hull the programme was presented to a ladies' club. In Elder Merkley's own words, "Not one of them had ever seen a member of the Church before, and their conception of what we were and from whence we came was that of 'desert Utah with a wall surrounding it and people living in sin within'." The Hull Psychological Club and a current affairs group were also presented with the cinema-lecture. These were all well-educated people and were quick to invite the Elders back again.

Sheffield was next on Elder Merkley's itinerary. Here he lectured to a number of youth clubs. The highlight of his visit to Sheffield, however, was a presentation before 225 members of the University of Sheffield student body. Twenty minutes were allotted for questions, but so much enthusiasm was aroused that many of the students were late for their next class in order to learn more about the Mormon people. Some of these students appeared in church the following Sunday.

In Leeds, the local Y.M.C.A. and the Leeds University were visited. The

Elder Guy R. Merkley

Elders had several invitations to visit some of the students in their homes to teach them more of the Gospel. At Bradford, encouraging results were received before the St. John's Ambulance Corps.

In London, a local girls' trio was formed and accompanied Elder Merkley to the London Central Y.W.C.A., where the programme was also well received. A lecture to the West Croydon Toc H club also created much enthusiasm.

Lectures in Manchester included a presentation before 150 students of the University of Manchester. Programmes were also presented to youth clubs, the Sea Cadets, a group of returned servicemen, war workers, and Y.M.C.A's.

At West Hartlepool the film and lecture was presented to a group who responded to an advertisement in the local paper. At Sunderland, another group was contacted as a result of handbills that were distributed around

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THE TRUE MISSIONARY SPIRIT

WE just couldn't wait. There were thirteen of us in the little party of missionaries leaving New York on July 2nd for the British Mission. Five days the trip was to take, and none of us could see any reason to let five more days slip by before beginning our missionary labours.

Elder George W. Palmer, our group leader, called us all together for a short meeting the first night at sea to talk over the day's activities and discuss any problems which might have arisen incident to our embarkation. The exchange of experiences and the partaking of the sweet spirit which seemed to prevail with us as a group proved to be so mutually stimulating and uplifting that with one accord we agreed to meet together at least once a day for the remainder of the voyage.

During the days that ensued we went about the ship in twos and threes, engaging in conversation those of the other passengers with whom we came in contact, constantly seeking for an opportunity to speak something to them of the Gospel. Elder Palmer and Elder Frank Pond Reese found occasion to lend their Books of Mormon to two people who displayed a great deal of interest in our message. Since arriving in England, another of our number, Elder Grant R. Dalton, has presented a Book of Mormon to a gentleman with whom he shared his cabin on board ship. Before the voyage was over, a great many passengers on the "Queen Elizabeth" knew what was represented by that small group of young men who went about carrying two books of scripture instead of one.

Our last full day aboard the ship was Sunday. For us it would not have been complete without a meeting, and to this end arrangements had been made during the week to hold two Church services, a Sacrament and Testimony meeting for our own little group Sunday morning, and for Sunday evening, a service in the ship's theatre for all who might wish to attend. The first part of the morning meeting was taken by Elder Joseph M. Reed, who presented a lesson on Faith. This was followed by participation of the entire group in a most inspiring testimony meeting.

For the evening meeting, a programme was prepared with the particular view in mind of presenting within one short hour such salient features of the Gospel as would be most enlightening to visitors not well acquainted with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. It fell my lot to give a short talk on "The Apostasy and Restoration." Elder Reed A. Benson, introducing his subject with a text from Matthew, "By their fruits ye shall know them," presented a summary of the accomplishments of the Church since its establishment in 1830. A vocal solo was rendered by Elder Francis Bitton, and a third short talk on the first principles of the Gospel was assigned to Sister Leah Lloyd. Those who attended the service numbered thirty-one, eighteen being visitors who had accepted the public invitation to meet with us.

All of us enjoyed that five-day voyage immensely, and through our humble attempts to magnify our calling as missionaries, each one of us gained a stronger testimony that the Spirit of the Lord is indeed with those who strive to serve him in righteousness.

—ROBERT E. RIGGS

"ANOTHER SOUL UNTO ME"

By Stella S. Wood
Liverpool District

"GOOD-BYES" were said. The train puffed out of the station at Salt Lake City that September 17th, 1946; thirteen missionaries were starting on their journey to fill missions in the British Isles. They sped across the country leaving behind them mountains and plains.

At Chicago, a businessman entered the train and began his journey to England. He was employed by the Goss Printing Press Co. and was being sent to England to direct and assist in reconversion problems at the Preston Goss Works. Little did he realise the hand of destiny that would change the course of his life as he entered the train on that particular day.

As the train rolled through the State of Michigan approaching the Canadian border, a Protestant Minister came through the car distributing literature and discussing religion. He was exceedingly fluent in his speech and remarkably well versed in the Bible. He tried to confound the young people and convince them of errors in their religion.

After a lengthy discussion which aroused the interest of practically all in the car, it was the minister who was nettled and not the young people. He left abruptly saying that that was enough and would give them plenty to think about. He had also given some of the other passengers plenty to think about, especially the gentleman from Chicago.

Elder Robert C. Combes, who was older and more experienced, noted the interest of his fellow passengers and felt impressed to stand up and introduce himself and the other missionaries. He told them they were a group of Latter-day Saint missionaries and were on their way to Great Britain to teach the Gospel; that they were unpaid for their labours and were spending their time and money without monetary remuneration. He told of the history of the Church and bore his personal testimony of the truthfulness of the Gospel. At the close of his remarks, Mr. Graf, the businessman from Chicago, asked Elder Combes if he could have a talk with him.

From that time on, many Gospel discussions between Mr. Graf and the missionaries took place. He was loaned the Standard Works of the Church and other Church literature. He attended the daily missionary meetings aboard the "Queen Mary."

Quoting from Mr. Graf's own words, "Interesting, particularly, in these meetings was the earnestness of the young people and their planning for their missionary activities in England. All this had a tremendous effect on me. My desire for certain pleasures immediately left me and I couldn't seem to get enough time to read and discuss the religious matters that I had never been able to concentrate on before. A very strong desire developed to join your church and become baptised in it immediately so that I wouldn't lose the opportunity to start in your church on the road of a spiritual life, that had suddenly became very important to me."

At Preston, President Roy Wood of the Liverpool District called on Mr. Graf. He joined the little group of investigators and friends each Tuesday night in cottage meetings which proved most helpful to him. Quoting again from his letter to the author, "The Tuesday meetings in your home and the studying of the literature of your religion were very helpful in my decision and in answering the many uncertainties that come to my mind. While I couldn't hope to know very much in the short time that I had come in contact with your religion, I believe that for the first time I realised that prayers were answered and I believe, also, that your discussions and guidance in praying taught me how."

—continued on page 254

Every Nation....Kindred ....Tongue And People

By James L. Mortensen

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following article, written by Elder James L. Mortensen is based on a letter written to the "Millennial Star" by President Evan W. Huntsman of the Tongan Mission.

THE significance of scriptural references to the preaching of the Gospel in all parts of the world bears particular interest in these latter days. We are living in a most important dispensation and our labours in the field of humanity, whether they be Caucasian or Polynesian, must reach out into all lands. The Lord loves all men; they are His children. Our mission in life is to help to show each other the way back to our eternal Home.

Of special interest to Latter-day Saints the world over, is the Pacific Mission. Our attention this month is focused on the Tonga Archipelago—the last South Sea kingdom, which is situated about 3,000 miles east of Australia. With the exception of its social conditions, we know very little about its course before the arrival of Captain Cook in 1773. The kingdom of Tonga consists of three island groups—Tonga. Ha'apai and Vava'u, with an area of 390 square miles and a population of about 22,000.

Tonga has an interesting history and is resplendent with stories of romance, nobility and conquest. At the head of the Constitution stood the Tuitonga, monarch and god in one, with absolute power over persons and property. The King and his family composed the first class (Hau) of the nobility. The second (Eiki or Egi) furnished the highest officials in the Kingdom, appointed by the King, although the dignity was hereditary. The last class of nobility (Matabule) furnished councillors and servants. These three classes were the sole possessors of the soil, as well as the powers of taboo. The common people possessed only personal freedom and supported themselves by cultivation of the nobles' lands, by handicrafts, or by fishing.

Following an 18th Century revolution, Christianity was introduced by Protestant and Catholic missionaries. King George Tupou I. united the whole archipelago into one kingdom which soon bore the stamp of European influence. The legislation of 1862 raised the serfs to free farmers. By 1875 the internal reforms were completed and the administration kept closely to English forms. It was placed under a British Protectorate in 1900. With the establishment of the Tongan Kingdom, the last of the native states of Oceania disappeared.

The Book of Mormon has just been recently translated into their own tongue and a few copies have arrived in the Tongan Mission. President George Albert Smith autographed a few special gift copies which have been presented to Her Majesty, Queen Salote, and members of the royal family, as well as to the Governors of the Islands of Vava'u and Ha'apai.

It is believed that the Book of Mormon is a history of their ancestors and that the following passages might refer to the original inhabitation of those islands:

"And it came to pass that Hagoth, he being an exceedingly curious man, therefore he went forth and built him an exceedingly large ship, on the borders of the land Bountiful, by the land Desolation, and launched it forth into the West Sea by the narrow neck which led into the land Northward.

"And behold there were many of the Nephites who did enter therein and did sail forth with many provisions, and also many women and children; and they took their course Northward. And thus ended the thirty and seventh year.

"And in the thirty and eighth year, this man built other ships. And the first ship did also return; and many more people did enter into it; and they also took much provisions, and set out again to the land northward." (Alma 63: 5-7)

President Evan W. Huntsman of the Tongan Mission reports this:—"Although we are pretty well isolated from the outside world and are denied many of the things we enjoyed in Zion, we feel greatly favoured of the Lord to be called among His chosen people, and we have many glorious experiences working with them."

Some difficulty has been experienced in gaining entrance to the Tongan Islands. The missionary force there consists of President and Sister Huntsman, Elder and Sister Rudolph H. Wolfgramm, who perviously lived there and have a good knowledge of the people and language, Elder and Sister W. Liddell Roberts and their three children, Elder Bevan B. Blake and thirty-one local Elders. All efforts so far have failed to persuade the Government officials to issue additional landing permits for Elders from Zion. Prejudice has been built up by the other churches of the Island, even though every home has been visited. The Queen has seen the power of the Priesthood manifest in her Palace where the Elders were called on two occasions to administer to her late father, King George Tupou II.

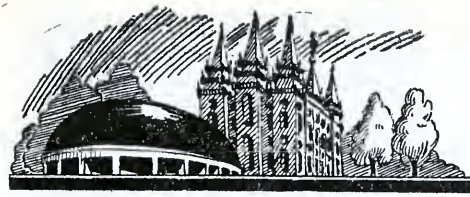
The Mission consists of three districts, thirty-one branches, and 2,400 members scattered throughout the kingdom of Tonga. The war years found them organised with local Priesthood members under the direction of President and Sister Emile C. Dunn, who also did a great work in the Genealogy department for them.

The Church school (Makeke College) students raise their own food on the plantation and are taught how to till the soil. The enrolment is 156 this year and could be much larger if accommodations and teachers were available.

The Saints are very faithful in attendance at all of their meetings and in the payment of tithes and offerings. They live a rather happy, carefree life and haven't had much opportunity to advance. They know very little about the world or its troubles. They saw for the first time modern machinery and new methods of doing things while the American and New Zealand soldiers were stationed there.

The climate is ideal and the ground produces abundantly and with very little effort they can provide for themselves very well. The Lord has been very good to the Tongan people and they have had a wonderful chance to hear the Gospel. As their eyes are opened and they become converted, they are very sincere and the Gospel means everything to them.

May God bless our brothers and sisters in Tonga. We here in Britain pray for their success in bringing the message of peace and brotherhood of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the Tongan People.



Edito

THE CHURCH IN A WORLD OF SPIRITUAL DECLINE

FROM Hyde Park in London, from the "Bull Ring" in Birmingham, from the Old Market Square in Nottingham, from Edinburgh, Belfast and many other cities scattered throughout the British Mission, the message of the Restored Gospel is once again being promulgated.

As in years past, the crowds are again gathering about the young Elders and hearing of the principles of the Gospel and of the events leading up to the organisation of the Church. Once again rapid-fire questions are being thrown at the Elders. However, the questions are not those of a decade or two ago. "Where are the gold plates?" and "How many wives did Brigham Young have?" are now being replaced by "Have you ever seen God?" or "How do you know that the Bible is true?"

The difference in the present-day queries and those of the past are indicative of the increase in the disbelief of Deity and the decrease in the spirituality of the nation. This is supported by statistical estimates published by the Press and Publications Board of the Church Assembly at the request of the Archbishops of Canterbury and York. These figures show that from 10 to 15 percent of the population of Great Britain are closely linked to some Christian church; that 25 to 30 percent of the population are interested enough to attend church on special occasions; that 45 to 50 percent are indifferent towards religion; while 10 to 20 percent are actually hostile towards the churches.

Countless incidents can be cited tending to prove the religious deterioration of England, America and other major powers of the world. Observations made during the travels of some of the Church officers here in the British Mission are most interesting.

One report tells of the increasing rate of amalgamation of the churches—the assignment of one vicar over two or more parishes. Another tells of a vast cathedral in Birmingham with a seating capacity of approximately 2,000 which has a congregation averaging seventeen persons. Still another tells of the famed church at Gravesend that has an attendance of four to five children each week in the Sunday School which is, by necessity, taught by the Church warden.

In an interview with a reporter for the "Manchester Evening News," President George W. Bruerton of the Manchester District

told of the prosperous appearances of the churches when he lived in England thirty-five years ago. President Bruerton went on to say that he was horrified with the present-day condition of the churches. He told of one church that was being used as a bakery and of still another church which is now used as a mattress factory.

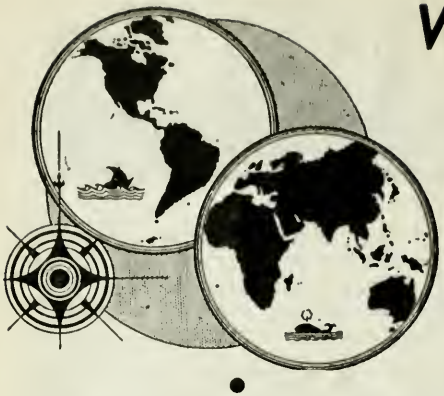
In line with this abandonment of the churches, are reports indicating a complete financial breakdown of the church. After musing over the Law of Tithing as described in the ancient scriptures, officials of the church in some sections of the country are advancing a plan whereby all persons living within the confines of certain parishes will pay a "tithe" of a penny per person. They foresee a definite collapse if these measures are not taken.

The Archbishop of York, Dr. Garbett, in a recent sermon, told his congregation that the church's need for money was urgent and could not bear a delay. The Archbishop further said, "It is strange how many are content to offer to Almighty God on Sunday sums which they would not dream of offering at the pay-box of an inexpensive provincial cinema." He spoke of the church's present condition as an "economic crisis."

Admist this spiritual degeneration of the world lies the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. In contrast with the present trend of religions, the Church is growing steadily not only in numbers but also in power and prestige. Authorities of the Church have recently created the 168th Stake of Zion. Preparations for new missions including the Uruguayan Mission and the Finnish Mission are now under way. In this day of religious contraction. the Church has exceeded the one million mark in total membership.

Here in Britain, in spite of heavy emigration, thirteen branches have been opened within the past year. Mission statistics show that over one hundred baptisms have taken place in the first six months of this year. Furthermore, attendance at most branches is increasing constantly. Comments concerning the Church in the British Press have been most favourable of late. "Illustrated." "John Bull," "Britannia and Eve," and many newspapers throughout the country have given the Church encouraging publicity.

Notwithstanding the present condition of the world regarding religion, we know that the Church will never be weaker than it is this very day—that it will continue to grow and expand. We know. also, that in spite of the apparent religious indifference in the world today that there are many souls in this land and other lands who are ever searching for the truth and who will in due time recognise and embrace the Gospel of Jesus Christ—"the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth."—WILLIAM R. CALLISTER



World Church News

AMERICAN - WIDE BROADCASTS BY TWO OF THE FIRST PRESIDENCY. — On Sunday, July 20th, two radio programmes honouring Utah's Centennial were broadcast from coast to coast over two American nation-wide networks and featured two members of the First Presidency. President George Albert Smith participated in one of the programmes which featured a round table discussion devoted to the theme, "Building the New West." President David O. McKay, second counsellor in the First Presidency, was the speaker on the other programme, The Columbia Broadcasting System's "Church of the Air." Music for the latter was furnished by the Tabernacle Choir.

PIONEERS OF 1947.—On July 14th, 143 men, three women and two children, as in the original band of Pioneers, journeyed for eight days across the plains of Iowa and Nebraska and the mountains of Wyoming and Utah to the Great Salt Lake Valley. These "Sons of the Utah Pioneers" re-enacted some of the experiences of the original Pioneers who crossed the plains in 1847. Camps were organised similar to those of a century ago, with captains of 100, captains of 50 and captains of 10. Each night they formed the famous circle round the camp fires and sang pioneer hymns and participated in pioneer dances. At many stopping places of historical interest, special programmes were presented.

SUNDAY SERVICES UNDER THE SKY.—Sunday services are now being conducted in the National Parks in and around Utah in order that vacationing Saints and tourists might be able to attend their Sunday meetings. Under the direction of Stake Mission Presidents, services are being held in Zion's, Bryce, and Yellowstone National Parks. The first of these services conducted this year was held amidst the grandeur of Zion's National Park. Eighty-six persons were in attendance, half of whom were non-members.

168th STAKE CREATED. — On June 29th, the 168th stake of the Church was organised with headquarters in Spokane, Washington. It is the seventh stake to be organised this year and will be known as the Spokane Stake. This newest stake of the Church was created under the direction of Elders Ezra Taft Benson and Mark E. Petersen of the Council of the Twelve. It includes five wards and six branches, all of which were former branches of the Northwestern States Mission.

50,000 PRIMARY CHILDREN PARTICIPATE IN PIONEER PROGRAMMES. — The Primary General Board estimated that around 50,000 Primary children have participated in special summer programmes presented in honour of the Pioneers. Many miniature pioneer parades have been held. Pioneer songs, dramas and stories have been learned by children throughout the Church.

"THIS IS THE PLACE" MONUMENT UNVEILED. — Thousands of residents and tourists in Salt Lake City gathered at the mouth of Emigration Canyon on July 24th to witness the unveiling of the "This is the Place" Monument. (See front cover, **Millennial Star**, July, 1947.)

The Church in Europe

MISSION PRESIDENTS' CONFERENCE.—Under the direction of President Alma Sonne, an inspirational conference of European Mission presidents was held in Malmo, Sweden, July 16th to 19th. Mission presidents, their wives, and the Mission secretaries were in attendance. Elder Francis R. Gasser accompanied President Walter Stover of the East German Mission from Berlin. Following the conference the entire group, which included the families of some of the presidents, enjoyed a trip through the Gota Canal from Goteborg to Stockholm.

CHURCH BUILDINGS DEDICATED IN SWEDEN. — Resourceful and tireless President Eben R. T. Blomquist of the Swedish Mission directed the purchase and renovation of three attractive buildings which were dedicated by President Alma Sonne in Halsingborg, Malmo, and Jonkoping on July 12th, 13th and 14th, respectively. A programme containing pictures of the chapels, President and Sister Sonne, President and Sister Blomquist, the presidency of the Jonkoping Branch, and the schedule for each dedicatory service, was distributed at the meetings. The acquisition of these fine chapels is a big step forward in the Swedish Mission. The Church is proud to possess them. All are adequate, modern, and attractive. Another building in Goteborg has been purchased and will be ready for dedication at Christmas time.

FRENCH MISSION M.I.A. CONFERENCE. — An M.I.A. conference in the French Mission will be held in Liege, Belgium, August 15th. The French Mission comprises France, Belgium, and French Switzerland. This conference will be the first Mission-wide get-together since before the war and many Saints from the three countries will be in attendance. It is under the direction of President James L. Barker.

NEW DISTRICTS FORMED IN FINLAND. — With the increased missionary activity in Finland, a new district has been organised there. The entire country was formerly a district of the Swedish Mission. When President Henry Matis arrives to direct the Finnish Mission he will find the Helsingfors District presided over by Elder Mark Anderson and the Gamla Karleby District, comprising northern Finland, presided over by Elder A. Theodore Johnson, who has been President of the Finland District. Missionary prospects in that country are bright. When Presidents Sonne and Blomquist and their party visited Finland June 26th to 30th, they found the people unusually receptive and interested. Members of the Church there, most of whom have been recently baptised, welcomed the leaders warmly and are striving diligently to learn more of the truth they have embraced.

DANISH MISSION PRESIDENT'S WIFE ARRIVES. — Sister Alma L. Petersen, wife of the President of the Danish Mission, arrived in Copenhagen late in June, with her daughter, to join President Petersen, who has been in Denmark for a year. This is President Petersen's third mission to Denmark, two of which he was accompanied by Sister Petersen.

British Mission

ARRIVALS AND ASSIGNMENTS

The following missionaries arrived in the British Isles aboard the "Ernie Pyle," July 6th, 1947:

Elder FRANK McDONALD CARLISLE of Holladay, Utah, was assigned to labour in the London District.

Elder PAUL CHIPMAN FLETCHER of Summit, New Jersey, was assigned to labour in the Scottish District.

The following missionaries arrived in the British Isles aboard the "Queen Elizabeth," July 7th, 1947:

Elder BRUCE STEPHEN BENEDICT of Canandaigna, New York, was assigned to labour in the Irish District.

Elder ROBERT ISRAEL CALL of Logan, Utah, was assigned to labour in the Sheffield District.

Elder GRANT REUNARD DALTON of Mesa, Arizona, was assigned to labour in the Irish District.

Sister LEAH LLOYD of American Fork, Utah, was assigned to labour in the Nottingham District.

Elder JOHN HENRY SCHAERRER and **Sister NELLIE R. RICHARDSON SCHAERRER** of Payson, Utah, were assigned to labour in the Newcastle District.

Elder REED AMUSSEN BENSON of Salt Lake City, Utah, was assigned to labour in the Nottingham District.

Elder FRANK POND REESE of Logan, Utah, was assigned to labour in the Manchester District.

Elder ROBERT LAURITZ SHAW of Draper, Utah, was assigned to labour in the Manchester District.

Elder JOSEPH M. REED of Mesa, Arizona, was assigned to labour in the Nottingham District.

Elder ROBERT EDWON RIGGS of Mesa, Arizona, was assigned to labour in the London District.

Elder GEORGE W. PALMER of Vale, Oregon, was assigned to labour in the Norwich District.

Elder FRANCIS BITTON of Swan Valley, Idaho, was assigned to labour in the Sheffield District.

APPOINTMENTS AND TRANSFERS

Elder WILLIAM RICHARD WAITE was transferred on June 30th from the Norwich District to the Liverpool District.

Elder ARCHIBALD G. H. WEBB was transferred on July 7th to the Sheffield District from the Scottish District, where he served as District President.

Elder ARTHUR V. NETTLESHIP and **Sister GLADYS NETTLESHIP** of the London District was transferred to the Hull District on July 17th.

Elder DEANE HOWARD PLATT was transferred on July 28th from the Manchester District to the Sheffield District.

Elder WILLIAM HARPER STONEMAN was transferred on July 7th from the London District, where he served as Supervising Elder, to the Scottish District, where he is serving as District President.

Elder JAMES L. MORTENSEN was transferred on July 7th from the Irish District to the London District.

Elder WILLIAM RICHARD WAITE was transferred from the Liverpool District to the Irish District on July 31st.

RELEASES

Elder FREDERICK JAMES CLARK and **Sister MARTHA CUMMING CLARK** were released as missionaries to the British Mission on July 14th. They have laboured in the Leeds and Scottish Districts.

Elder ARCHIBALD G. H. WEBB was released as a missionary to the British Mission on July 14th. Elder Webb has served in the Bristol, Scottish and Sheffield Districts. He served as District President over the Bristol District for a period of six months and also over the Scottish District for a period of six months.

DISTRICT ACTIVITIES

BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
Reported by Nancy Tenney

The Kidderminster Branch of the Birmingham District held an outing on Saturday, June 21st, under the direction of the Relief Society, to Church Stratton and Ludlow Castle. For approximately seven hours, the beauties of rural England were witnessed by an appreciative group. The excursion proved to be not only a pleasure trip but was also very educational, Ludlow Castle being a place a real historic interest.

Birmingham Conference was held in the Handsworth Chapel on June 22nd. Ninety-two persons were present at the first session. Addresses were given by Roland Collins, Brian Yates, Leslie Megeny and Gwendoline Maguire. Terry Webb gave a beautiful vocal rendition of "The Holy City"; Valerie Yates recited; and Branch Primary Choir directed by Brenda Heath, rendered musical numbers. John S. Jones was the concluding speaker. At the second session, ninety-four members and friends convened. Speakers for the services were Mr. and Mrs. Thornell, Richard Thomas, Sister Lily May Norton and District President Charles L. Norton. Music was rendered by the Singing Mothers, under the direction of Winifred Stokes, and by Evelyn Collins and Doris Green.

BRISTOL DISTRICT
Reported by Frances B. Herman

On Tuesday, June 17th, the M.I.A. held a social in honour of the Pioneers. Many members dressed in Pioneer costumes and took part in a very enjoyable entertainment.

On June 20th, members of the Primary, accompanied by four officers, paid a visit to the Sea Scouts' boat, "The Dolphin," anchored in the Bristol Harbour. After a conducted tour of the boat, the children had the pleasure of seeing canoe and boat races for young Sea Scouts.

The Bristol Branch held its con-

ference on July 6th. Branch President Hugh A. McLean conducted the meeting, during which the Primary children gave a musical selection. The speakers were District President Thomas H. Heal, Samuel Dyson and Albert Perry.

HULL DISTRICT
Reported by Helen Bryant

The Hull Branch M.I.A. sponsored a banquet on June 28th. The tables were tastefully decorated and a supply of food, donated by the members, was prepared by the Relief Society sisters, and approximately forty people enjoyed their first post-war banquet. Toasts were given by the heads of all auxiliaries. An enjoyable programme of musical items, games and dancing made it an evening long to be remembered. The proceeds were given to the Grimsby Branch building fund. The master of ceremonies for the evening was District President Don C. Wood.

The Hull Branch held its Branch Conference on June 29th, with Branch President Elwin F. Cammack, Elder Blair Maxfield and Edward Smith as speakers. Two beautifully rendered numbers by the newly-formed missionary quartette and a vocal solo by Elder Albert Eccles were enjoyed by members of the Branch. Branch President Elwin F. Cammack conducted the conference and District President Don C. Wood presided.

LEEDS DISTRICT
Reported by George Pitts

Recently, under the capable leadership of Gladys Kimberly, Primary Mother of the Bradford Branch, the Primary paid a visit to a local beauty spot, "Chellow Dene." Everyone present had a most enjoyable day. It is pleasing to note that the Bradford Primary is making definite progress.

On Saturday, July 5th, the Bradford M.I.A. held an outing to "Shibbden Hall," a 15th century mansion. Although the weather was inclement, everyone enjoyed the trip, particularly the walk down Shibbden Valley and the conducted tour around the Hall. Twenty-one people braved the elements and were in attendance.

On one of those rare occasions when the sun decided to shine in the Bradford area, the Bradford and Dewsbury Saints on Saturday, July 12th, met to take part in an outing to Tong Hall. Fred Womersley of the Dewsbury Branch was in charge of the arrangements. Following tea, the party was conducted around the Hall by the custodian, who went to great lengths to explain its very interesting history. A highlight of the day was the participation of the two branches in a competitive game of rounders which, fortunately, was a draw. It was no secret that every one of the thirty-six present had a very enjoyable day.

LIVERPOOL DISTRICT
Reported by Clifford Hartley

On Saturday, July 12th, the members and friends of the Preston Branch met together in a farewell party in honour of President Harry D. Foster and his wife and two daughters who left for the States on July 15th. Games and community singing were enjoyed under the leadership of Clifford Hartley of the Wigan Branch. A small token of remembrance was made to each of the Fosters by George G. Jamieson. Suitable responses were made by the recipients.

On June 26th, a farewell party was held in the Wigan Branch for Catherine and Joan Hartley, who left for Idaho Falls and Salt Lake City, respectively on July 1st. Games were enjoyed by all under the leadership of Elder Norman Gardner. Refreshments included a beautiful iced cake made by Marion Hartley. The sisters were both presented with a beautiful tablecloth by Herbert S. Webster on behalf of the members of the Branch, who paid glowing tribute to their unbroken service in the Church.

LONDON DISTRICT
Reported by Norman Derrick Hawkes

The Luton Branch Presidency was re-organised on Sunday, June 29th. William H. Gadd, first counsellor, and William Taylor-Smith, second coun-

sellor, were released. The Branch Presidency is now organised as follows: President Allan E. Osborne; first counsellor, William Taylor-Smith; second counsellor, Harry Laycock; clerk, Patrick G. Fleming.

As part of its summer programme the Luton Branch M.I.A. is studying the French and German languages under the tutorship of William Taylor-Smith and Beryl Laycock.

On Saturday, July 12th, at the South London Chapel, Cecil Gordon Holmes was baptised by Elder Richard W. Clayton and confirmed by President Selvoy J. Boyer. Cynthia May Holmes was baptised by Elder Clayton and confirmed by Elder Melvin M. Owens. Annie Elizabeth Stroud was baptised by Elder Clayton and confirmed by Elder Frank Carlisle.

The Luton Branch Sunday School went by motor-coach to Clacton-on-Sea for an outing on Saturday, July 5th. Forty-one adults and children made up the party. The journey through the countryside, swimming, and games on the beach, combined to make a very pleasant day.

MANCHESTER DISTRICT

Reported by Norman T. Woodhead

On Tuesday, June 17th, the Rochdale Relief Society held its first bottling night," in support of the Welfare Programme. About forty bottles of rhubarb were prepared. The sisters hope to add many more varieties of food to their stock before the coming winter.

On Saturday, July 12th, the sisters organised an outing to the Milcroft Tea Gardens where an enjoyable time was spent by about thirty people from the District.

On June 22nd, Norman T. Woodhead, John F. Leach, Fred Waddington and Bernard Barwick attended the Young Men's Class at the Chapel of the Destitute, Rochdale. Norman Woodhead gave an address on the "Pioneers," and an interesting discussion followed. All four brethren answered many questions concerning the Gospel.

Once again the Y.M.M.I.A. in Rochdale has had an active month under the leadership of John F. Leach. On Friday, June 27th, they played the Castleton Roman Catholic Youth Club at table tennis and won by four games to one. On Monday, June 30th, they played the same organisation at cricket, but were beaten by ninety-five runs against forty-seven. On Thursday, July 3rd, they played the Castleton Boy Scouts at cricket, winning by sixty-five to forty-one.

NEWCASTLE DISTRICT

Reported by Joan L. Wappett

At the baptismal service held in the Sunderland Chapel, June 28th, 1947, the following were baptised and confirmed members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints: Mary Eliza Hadaway Lee, baptised by Elder George T. Sonntag, confirmed by Elder Frederick W. Oates; Malcolm John Charles Rappley, baptised by Elder George T. Sonntag, confirmed by Elder Kenneth M. Oswald.

The Relief Society of the Carlisle Branch held a "bring and buy" sale on June 19th. The proceeds were added to the Relief Society funds.

NORWICH DISTRICT

Reported by Alfred F. Woodhouse

The Saints of the Norwich District gathered at the Norwich Branch Chapel at the week-end of June 21st and 22nd, the occasion being a special visit of Mission President and Sister Selvoy J. Boyer. On Saturday evening a fine concert was given by members of the Lowestoft and Norwich Branches and was enjoyed by a large number of members and friends. A buffet luncheon was served under the direction of the Primary officers.

The Relief Society of the Norwich Branch visited Ipswich on its annual outing on June 26th. After a pleasant journey a visit was paid to the Cobbold Mansion House. All enjoyed viewing the arts and antiques exhibited therein. A sojourn in the park and gardens also contributed to an enjoyable day.

On Sunday, July 13th, the Norwich Branch Conference was held in the Branch Chapel. Sunday School was held in the morning. At 3 p.m. the Branch officers met with the District Presidency and the Supervising Elder. In the evening session Supervising Elder Connell M. Whitehead and Albert A. Cole, first counsellor in the District Presidency, were the speakers.

Yarmouth Branch held its Branch Conference on Sunday, July 6th, in the Branch hall. Sunday School was held in the afternoon. In the evening session Branch President Albert A. Cole, Elders Wm. L. Blackwell and Dale M. Chapman were the speakers.

Branch Conference at Lowestoft was held at the Branch chapel on Sunday, June 29th. Sunday School was held in the morning.. At the evening service Branch President Sidney W. Coleby, and counsellors William H. Daniels and Ronald W. Coleby were the speakers

On the Recreation Ground at Great Yarmouth on Saturday, June 23rd, a group of seventy-five children and adults spent an enjoyable time at the summer outing of the Primaries and Sunday Schools of Lowestoft and Yarmouth Branches. Among the events were children's races, games and the amusements of a children's playground. A special feature of the day was a boating trip on the inland waterways of the sea front. This enjoyable event was organised by President Albert A. Cole of Yarmouth Branch.

At Lowestoft on Tuesday, July 8th, Elders Lamar Empey, William R. James and Sister Betty Mitchell paid a visit to the members of an institution for the blind. They received a very cordial welcome. During the afternoon they rendered musical items both vocal and instrumental, which were appreciated and enjoyed. Great interest was taken in the Gospel conversations which followed and a special invitation was given to the missionaries to pay another visit in the future.

NOTTINGHAM DISTRICT

Reported by Wallace R. Reid

Summer activities in the various branches were as follows:

Leicester Sunday School had a pleasant outing on the River Trent at Nottingham. Eastwood Relief Society visited places of historical interest, taking lunch and enjoying the day. Hucknall Relief Society travelled to Trent Embankment, then were entertained in the evening by the Nottingham Relief Society. Loughborough Branch entertained the Leicester M.I.A. in a successful fireside. All are enthusiastic about this new additon to Latter-day Saint activities. Nottingham M.I.A. visited famed Wollaton Hall and Park, the Arboretum, and a day at the sea shore on July 17th.

The series of inspirational Branch Conferences is in full swing. President Reid with assistants, Geo. E. Gent, Sunday School, Geo. W. Winfield, M.I.A., and Sister Nora Reid, Relief Society and Primary, have conducted conferences in Mansfield, Hucknall, Derby, Eastwood and Nottingham. Leicester and Loughborough will be completed shortly. All Branches show improvement and growth.

Sunday School is once more a regular, functioning department in Mansfield, after many years absence. Elder Vaughn L. Terry is Superintendent. Members are enthusiastic and are increasing in numbers.

Edith Shepherd has been released and honoured after forty years as President of the Nottingham Y.W. M.I.A. The new officers are: Alice Green, President, with Florence Peach and Doreen Robinson as her counsellors.

Re-modelling is complete at the lovely Nottingham Branch Chapel. Removal of a partition wall has made possible a light, roomy, well-ventilated meeting place for Branch and District gatherings.

Former District President Geo. E. Gent has disposed of his business in Leicester and while completing arrangements to emigrate to Utah is making temporary home with his family in the home of his former first counsellor, Samuel Pears, in Hucknall. The absence of this hard-working, faithful family will be greatly felt, not

alone in Leicester, but in the entire District.

Elders labouring in the District have made a splendid contact with the Nottingham Y.M.C.A., and Elder Koln Gunn McKay has accepted an invitation to coach their basket-ball team. He offers a challenge to any similar group in the British Mission.

Elders Reed A. Benson, J. McAlister Reed, and Sister Leah Lloyd, have been welcomed into the District. Elder Benson is labouring in Leicester with Elder Jerrol M. Boyer. Elder Reed and Sister Lloyd are labouring in Nottingham.

Eastwood Branch Conference was held on July 6th. Short talks were delivered by several of the local members. Musical numbers were rendered by Lillian Flint and a sextette. Addresses were given by District President Wallace R. Reid and George H. Winfield.

SCOTTISH DISTRICT

Reported by John S. MacKay

Two Sisters who have rendered faithful service in the Scottish District were guests of honour at a farewell social held in Glasgow on the evening of June 3rd. Mina Thomson and Marion Paterson, both of whom are Zion bound, were paid a sincere and heartfelt tribute by Branch President A. K. Leslie prior to receiving a token of esteem from the Branch members presented by Mrs. Leslie. Light refreshments were served in banquet form and an entertaining programme, including sketches, solos, duets, dancing, elocution, etc., was capably directed by M.I.A. President William Scott. Among those taking part were Elder and Sister Isgreen, Elder Izatt, Elder Hardy, Mina Thomson, Jessie Purdie, Betty Leslie, Marie Gemmell, A. K. Leslie, Robert McQueen, Wm. Scott and James Gemmell The popularity of these Sisters was evidenced by the attendance of sixty-eight members, many of whom travelled a considerable distance.

President and Sister Selvoy J. Boyer visited Edinburgh, Aberdeen and Glasgow from June 27th to July 1st. President Boyer also visited Airdrie during that period. Their trip to Aberdeen was the first made by a mission president and his wife in fourteen years.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT

Reported by Arvilla Smith

A farewell social was held in the Sheffield Chapel on June 21st, in honour of two German prisoners-of-war, who are returning home. Helmut Lamboni and Bruno Schulz have been visiting here for some time and we have thoroughly enjoyed their association. The Relief Society sisters provided refreshments and games were played. An interesting item on the programme was a vocal solo in German, sung by Mr. Lamboni. Mr. Schulz, in broken English, expressed his thanks for kindnesses shown to them by the Saints during their stay in England.

On July 5th, the missionaries of the Sheffield and Hull Districts and the Saints of Barnsley Branch met together for a celebration at 34 Victoria Road, the newly acquired meeting place for Barnsley. After a softball game at Locke Park, which ended in a tie, a lovely meal was served by the Barnsley Relief Society sisters back at Victoria Road. Community singing, vocal solos and readings completed the evening's entertainment.

WELSH DISTRICT

Reported by Gladys Mason

Four people were baptised into the Church on June 28th at Llantrisant. Confirmation service was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Vivian Barrett. At Cardiff, one of the converts, Thomas J. Howells, is sixty-nine years of age. Mr. Howells, Mr. Barrett, and Ronald and Rita Barrett were baptised by Elder Oliver J. Bennett.

A general meeting for Branch auxiliary presidencies, the first one to be held, was well attended. Discussions were led by President George Bennett and Sister Elva Bennett.

A Primary class was organised at Pontnewynydd in the Varteg Branch composed mostly of non-members.

PERSONALS

BIRTHS

BUCHANAN.—On July 6th, in the Handsworth Chapel, the infant son of William and Lois Buchanan of the Birmingham Branch, was blessed by his father and given the name of Stewart Allan Buchanan.

MARTIN.—On May 23rd a son was born to Mr. and Mrs. James Martin of the Eastwood Branch. He was blessed by his father on July 6th and given the name James Hugh Martin.

MAYBURY.—James LeRoy Maybury the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. James Maybury of the Sheffield Branch was born June 14th, 1947, and was blessed July 6th by George W. Laycock in the Sheffield Chapel.

GILL.—The infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Alfred Gill, born on May 5th, was blessed in the Birmingham Branch Chapel on June 1st by Branch President Wm. St. John Yates and given the name Peter Ashley Gill.

★ ★ ★

STROUD. — Gale Elizabeth Lady Stroud, daughter of William Henry and Anne E. Stroud, of Oxford, was blessed on June 15th in the South London Branch by District President George Poole.

MARRIAGE

GREEN-BROWN.—The marriage of Constance Patricia Green and Henry John Brown took place in the Handsworth Chapel in Birmingham on Wednesday, June 4th. District President Charles L. Norton performed the ceremony. Approximately eighty members and friends were in attendance.

DEATH

SUTCLIFFE.—Lily Sutcliffe of Pudsey, Leeds District, died on the 18th of June from pneumonia.

ATTWOOD. — Mrs. Rosa Fannie Perrett Attwood, 73, a former President of the South London Relief Society, died in a Salt Lake City hospital recently.

BARNES.—Janet Barnes, the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Barnes of Eastwood, died June 23rd. Funeral services were held on June 26th. A short address was given by District President Wallace R. Reid. The services were conducted by Branch President Edward A. Wright, who also dedicated the grave.

EMIGRATIONS

THOMSON.—Mina Thomson of the Glasgow Branch has recently emigrated to America. She has always donated her time and talents to the Branch and will be especially remembered for her musical abilities.

PATERSON.—Marion Paterson, also of the Glasgow Branch has recently emigrated to America. She has been active in Relief Society and during the war she served as a missionary.

HARTLEY. — Catherine and Joan Hartley of the Wigan Branch sailed on July 1st aboard the "Mauritania" for America to make their homes in Idaho Falls and Salt Lake City, respectively.

THORNELL.—Mr. and Mrs. Reginald Thornell of the Birmingham Branch sailed for America on June 26th aboard the "S.S. America."

JONES.—Muriel M. V. Jones of the Birmingham Branch left England June 9th by air, bound for Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada.

FOSTER.—Harry D. Foster; his wife, Elizabeth; and two daughters, Eveline and Wendy; of the Preston Branch, left for Logan, Utah, on July 15th. Brother Foster was just released as Branch President of Preston.

COLLINS. — Roland and Evelyn Collins and family sailed for the United States on July 6th. They have both been active workers of the Birmingham Branch, Brother Collins having filled a mission during the war.

THOMAS. — Richard and Naomi Thomas of the Birmingham Branch,

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the God of the spirits of all flesh, set a man over the congregation." (6) Again we read "Ye are the children of the Lord your God;" (7) and the psalmist declared: "I have said, Ye are gods; and all of you are children of the most High." (8)

Christ and the ancient apostles were even more explicit in their declarations of the Fatherhood of God than were the Old Testament prophets. Throughout the Saviour's entire ministry, He proclaimed that all mortals are the children of God. For example, almost immediately following His resurrection He said to Mary Magdalene: "Touch me not, for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father and your Father; and to my God and your God." (9)

The teachings of the ancient apostles are pregnant with such statements as the following:

> **"Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverance: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live."** (10)

When the Gospel light burst forth from the heavens in revelations to the Prophet Joseph Smith, a more complete understanding of man was received than could be found in all the holy scriptures and philosophies of the world. The stupendous truth of the existence of a Heavenly Mother as well as a Heavenly Father became an established fact. We learned that we are actually the offspring of Heavenly Parents; that we were begotten and born into the spirit world and grew to maturity in that realm.

The third noteworthy point in our discussion of man is that he is a God in embryo. If we are children of Heavenly Parents, then it stands to reason that we have inherited all the divine attributes that those parents possess. Charles W. Penrose expressed the foregoing idea in the following words:

> **"To know God we must know ourselves. All the personal attributes which are ascribed to God by inspired men, we find in ourselves. . . It (Mormonism) does not tend to debase God to the level of man, but to exalt man to the perfection of God."** (11)

If man is a God in embryo, then there is only one logical conclusion to draw; i.e., "men may become Gods."

This is our fourth point. As early as 1832, the Lord revealed this sublime truth to the Prophet Joseph Smith. (12) Eight years later, Lorenzo Snow formulated the following famous couplet: "As man now is, God once was; as God now is, man may be." (13) President Joseph F. Smith beautifully expressed the foregoing doctrine in the following words:

> **"Man is the child of God, formed in the divine image and endowed with divine attributes; and even as the infant son of our earthly father and mother is capable in due time of becoming a man, so the undeveloped offspring of celestial parentage is capable by experience through ages of aeons of evolving into a God."** (14)

The ultimate goal of eternal progression is to become exalted and receive eternal life, or, in other words, to become as God is. For this cause the Gospel of Jesus Christ was instituted before the foundation of the world and revealed to mankind from age to age.

(6) Numbers 27: 16; 16: 22; Hosea 1: 10; Isaiah 63: 16; 64: 8; Jeremiah 3: 19; Chronicles 28: 9
(7) Deuteronomy 14: 1; 32: 5
(8) Psalms 82: 6
(9) John 20: 17; Matthew 6: 4, 8, 9; 7: 11; 18: 10, 14, 19; Mark 11: 25; Luke 11: 13
(10) Hebrews 12: 9; Romans 8: 16-17; 1: 7; I Corinthians 1: 3; Galatians 1: 3
(11) Charles W. Penrose, **Millennial Star**, vol. 23, p. 181
(12) Doc. and Cov. 76: 54-59
(13) Lorenzo Snow, **Millennial Star**, vol. 54, p. 404
(14) Joseph F. Smith, Improvement Era, vol. 12, p. 81.

The only way that man can attain this great goal is by obedience to all the principles and ordinances of the Gospel. We become Godlike in this world only through the slow process of natural growth brought about as a result of righteous living; and eventually on the same principles some members of the human family will receive their exaltation and become as God is. It is thought, however, that a vast majority of the children of our Heavenly Parents will not obey the Gospel principles and ordinances to the degree requisite to finally exalt them to Godhood. However, many individuals will attain that desired goal and receive eternal life. The meaning of eternal life is to become exalted in the presence of God, receiving all the blessings and glory that our Eternal Father has in store for those who love Him and keep His commandments. This great attainment has been declared by our Maker to be His greatest gift to man. We are informed in modern revelation that a few men who have lived in mortality have already received that exaltation. For example, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob "have entered into their exaltation according to the promises, and sit upon thrones, and are not angels but are Gods." (15)

When all men and women throughout the entire world fully appreciate the divine truths that men are eternal beings, that all mortals are sons and daughters of Heavenly Parents and thereby are brothers and sisters, and that each of us possesses the divine attributes of God our Father and our Eternal Mother and upon proper compliance with all the laws of truth—i.e., the Gospel of Jesus Christ—we may become as God is, then shall hatred and war cease. At that day, and at that day only, will the inhabitants of the earth be in a proper mental attitude conducive to universal peace because they will esteem every man as a being of great worth. When all men everywhere learn to love the Lord their God with all their hearts, might, mind and strength, and to love their neighbours as themselves, then righteousness will dwell in their hearts and the peace of Christ will abound throughout the entire world. The principles of freedom and liberty will penetrate all governments. Men and women, living according to the laws of justice and righteousness—which laws are the laws of God—will have no more covetousness in their hearts. Peace shall reign supreme in every land. "The enmity of man, and the enmity of beasts, yea, the enmity of all flesh, shall cease from before my face," saith the Lord. (16)

(15) Doc. and Cov. 132: 37

(16) Ibid., 101: 26

PERSONALS

—continued from page 250

sailed for the United States on July 14th, aboard the "Marine Falcon." Brother Thomas is a former district president of the Welsh District.

BURTON.—On July 14th, James Burton; his wife, Agnes Ann; and daughter, Jean; left for the United States aboard the "Marine Falcon." The Burton Family has long been active in the Doncaster Branch.

HARRIS.—On July 6th, Thomas R. E. Harris, Dora G. Harris, and their daughter, Sandra, of the Grimsby Branch, left Southampton bound for the United States of America. They will make their home in Ogden, Utah.

BROADCAST POSTPONED

THE history of the Church to be broadcast by the B.B.C., originally scheduled for August 21st and 23rd, has been postponed until September. Exact time and dates will be released in next month's **Star.**

I HAD TO COME TO ZION

—continued from page 228

On the contrary they warned me more than once that they didn't want me **that** way. There was a welcome for me personally in their hearts whether I came in or not, but if I did join them it had to be free of will, sure of faith and confident of spirit.

Whether this was a test of my sincerity or not I do not know. Nor do I care. What I do know is that this attitude showed me the Truth as revealed to our Prophet Joseph Smith from a new angle. It showed me that it was afraid of nothing, that it needed neither artifice or cajolery to bolster its strength.

More—that its strength was great enough and abundant enough to overflow into my well of doubts and fears and to sustain me in my, by now, desperate need for spiritual ease.

I joined the Church . . .

That was only just over two months ago—but that, also, is only half the story.

When I look back I see how important the other half is, not only to me, but to many who may read this.

I say this in no spirit of personal vanity or personal complacency, but because I know that what happened to me is a symbol, a pointer, an unmistakable sign that the same sustenance in any hour of dire need is at the command of any who needs it if he will but ask for aid in the spirit that is laid down in the Book. Yes, it is as straightforward as that.

As you will have guessed, it was not easy to make the decision. I had everything to lose, nothing to gain.

Actually none of the threats materialised though I was prepared for the worst.

When my particular work was barred me for internationally religious reasons (on the other side of the Atlantic) a new avenue of labour was immediately opened up to me.

Where before my days were spent exhaustively in the tortuous ways of international chicanery trying in vain to separate the wheat from the chaff, today I have been given the opportunity of finding the wheat ready for distribution in my hand.

Where before I could at most expect to defer disillusion in those hopes that go to make up the everyday lives of millions, today I have the chance of helping constructively those who have been—and are searching for the real secret of happiness and peace.

It is not because I personally have found these things—the aim of all of us. I personally do not matter, but behind the ego that is me is the experience of the hard way that is so common to all of us—and what it needs to win through.

I am important only because He who loves us, He whose first wish is that we shall have true joy, gave me, in His mercy, the opportunity of telling you how easily His will can be carried out if only we have the faith to disregard traps that the enemies of Truth as we know it put in our path.

Last week I had the great privilege of speaking for the first time to a group of our members in a church in Zion.

Did I find what my former friends had warned me against? I found more friendliness, I found more sincerity, a truer welcome—I like to think more lasting friendships—in fifty minutes than I had known in fifty years of world experience outside the Church.

Three months ago I lived and had my being in a dark, cold land, hedged in by material stringency and spiritual bankruptcy. There was neither question nor prospect of a change for anything but the worse.

When (according to my friends) this fool in his folly became a Mormon—I

wish you could have heard the tones of pitying disgust the remark was made!—that question was immediately resolved, that prospect became radiant.

Three months ago I knew no kith nor kin in the old world. When I was invited into the new world, relatives and friends who were only names to me—some not even that—immediately provided the legal sponsorship to allow me to make my home here.

That was three months ago. Today —well, you know there is no material stringency. And I can give you unimpeachable testimony of spiritual well-being . . .

That is but part of "the other half of the story . . ."

What does it all add up to?

As I see it from my porch over your lovely valley and which you have now let me call my valley too, there stretches before me peace and happiness and security of tenure.

You, through your representatives abroad sent me a message. That message gave me new life, new hope in a world of evil and despair. I was literally born again.

I in turn want to mark my appreciation of this gift. I do not say it is your personal gift, your personal message any more than my personal appreciation matters at all.

But the symbolism behind that gift and that appreciation, put together in terms of experience, of understanding, of faith and courage and steadfastness in Him who enabled their fusion can be, must be, of some help in the cause you and I serve.

I am grateful indeed that I have been given the opportunity of working with you.

"ANOTHER SOUL UNTO ME"

—continued from page 237

Brother Albert J. Graf was baptised October 20th, 1946, at Burnley, Lancashire, by Elder Combes, who was then labouring in the Liverpool District, and was confirmed by President Wood. The Tuesday evening cottage meetings continued. Brother Graf also attended branch meetings and socials at the Church Hall in Preston.

In his associations with the missionaries and members ,the ties of friendship were closely knit. It was with mingled feelings of regret when he said "good-bye" to all who had become so closely united through the Gospel of Christ. He took with him the beautiful memory of those scenes and the joy that had come into his life by his visit to England.

Upon going home, his greatest desire was that his family should also have the opportunity to learn the Truth and share its joys. To his surprise he learned that his son's best friend was a member of the Church and that he had become interested while in the Army and attended church with his friend many times. Mrs. Graf also was very kind and understanding and is now attending church with her husband seeking for herself the fulfilment of the scriptures, "If any man will do the will of the Father, he shall know of the doctrine whether it be of God or whether I speak of myself."

Brother Graf is at present busily engaged as Chief Engineer of the Duplex Printing Company in Chicago and is an active member of the Wilmette Ward. And so another soul has heard and recognised the Gospel of Jesus Christ in Great Britain and has gained additional joys and blessings through his knowledge of the Gospel truths.

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THE CHURCH AND THE PRESS IN BRITAIN

THE following is an excerpt from a recent publication in Great Britain pertinent to the Church:

The Shields Gazette

"MORMONS BRING AFFECTION FOR BRITAIN'S GREENERY—This week I met two young Mormon missionaries of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints who have been in England many months and are now living at 9 Henry Nelson Street, South Shields.

"They are Elder Kenneth M. Oswald, of Shelley, Idaho, and Elder Douglas W. Loosle, of Logan, Utah. I expected to find them in some way bearing an outward resemblance in appearance to their pioneering predecessors, but there was nothing to distinguish them from just a couple of plain American citizens.

"Elder Oswald came over here in August, 1946, and he was joined four months later by his companion, Elder Loosle. Both belong to the Newcastle District of the British Missionary Field which is covered by about another 130 Mormon missionaries from the U.S.A. and Canada.

"Hailing from the dusty, arid West, they have been particularly impressed with the perennial greenness of our countryside and have a deep affection for the British people.

"SCOTTISH DESCENT — Elder Oswald, who is an engineer, was educated at the University of Idaho, and Elder Loosle, the son of a farmer, will enter Utah State Agricultural College when he goes back. During the war he served for two years as a rating in the U.S. Navy. He is of Scottish descent.

"Many people are still under the impression that the Mormon religion permits polygamy. This is not so. Over 50 years ago the Supreme Court of America passed a law prohibiting it, and since then the Mormon Church of Latter-day Saints does not allow a man to have more than one wife, and, furthermore, does not agree with divorce.

"On July 24th, the Mormon Church will celebrate the centenary of its establishment in Salt Lake Valley, where early pioneers settled after they were driven West from New York by violent dissentients.

"FIGHT FOR FREEDOM—The story of their fight for free expression is an epic. Shortly after the establishment of the church, Joseph Smith, whose name is as illustrious as Brigham Young, moved with his followers from New York to Kirkland, Ohio, near Cleveland. A beautiful temple was built, extensive missionary work was instituted, and the church made substantial gains in membership. Among the missions opened from this point was one in Missouri, and to this place the body of the church later moved.

"Eventually, mobs compelled them to move on and they went to Illinois, where they were received kindly.

"The peace, however, was short-lived. Joseph Smith, with his brother Hyrum, was imprisoned under false charges in Carthage, Illinois. There, while awaiting trial under the guaranteed protection of the State, they were shot and killed by an armed mob.

"Brigham Young succeeded to the leadership of the sect and led them to the Rocky Mountains where, through struggle and faith, they have become a mighty people."

MICROFILMING IN BRITAIN

—continued from page 230

Cunningham, Genealogical Chairman, David E. Gardner, researcher, and I, by appointment with the Vicar, Rev. T. K. Lowdell, rode to the parish of Tring in Hertfordshire. In Tring the ancestors of George Washington lived before their emigration to America. There we were met by the Curate and the Verger and Mr. Sibley, the Recordak microfilm operator. The parish chest was opened and twenty-nine volumes were taken out and quickly microfilmed. In a few hours of that one day were copied all the christenings, marriages and burials for Tring from the ancient year of 1566 to the present year 1947. This is a happy augury for the future of microfilming in this land.

NEW PROPERTY ACQUIRED— OLD PROPERTY RENOVATED

—continued from page 233

Branches, which required tedious journeys in order for them to attend meetings . Brighter days are ahead, however, with the purchase of a commodious detached residence known as "Halmleigh," located on the main road between Manchester and Hyde. After necessary remodelling, this place will make a suitable branch chapel as well as an ideal headquarters for the Manchester District. It stands in a large lot with space for an additional building if required. The grounds are well planted with shrubbery and lawns. Upon its completion, the Church will have another evidence to the people of this community of its vitality and growth.

The Liverpool Branch Chapel, located at 301 Edge Lane, was badly damaged during the war. Due to the shortage of building materials, great difficulty was experienced in patching up the chapel. However, this was done and the Saints continued to worship there regularly. Fortunately, the foundation and main structure of the building were found to be safe. Finally, after much time and effort, the building contractors, the local Saints, and the travelling missionaries have been able to transform it into an attractive chapel. The Liverpool Branch is indeed happy and grateful to meet again in their own building and rejoice in the goodness of the Lord to them.

Our hearts are filled with gratitude to our Heavenly Father for the opportunity we have of meeting together and for the availability of our many places of worship in the British Isles. May we show our appreciation by increased devotion in His service.

CINEMA-LECTURE— NEW PROSELYTING MODE

—continued from page 235

the neighbourhood. Toc H clubs and Y.M.C.A's. were also visited in that area.

As the Star goes to press, Elder Merkley is in Ireland, where he is again presenting his film and lecture before groups that have been previously arranged by the Elders now labouring there. On August 2nd he will travel to Scotland. From there he will go to Liverpool, to Birmingham, and then to Wales. By the end of this year he will have visited the entire mission.

Elder Merkley is indeed doing a wonderful work. In his wake are many investigators of the Gospel who are now being taught by the Elders in the various districts. He has left in many districts appointments for the Elders to lecture and to hold cottage meetings for groups who are interested in Church doctrines. Furthemore, through his lectures and his other personal contacts, he is helping to break an age-old prejudice towards a greatly misunderstood church and people.

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ILLUSTRATIONS OF I NEPHI (11)

THE JOURNEY THROUGH THE WILDERNESS
[Painting by J. Leo Fairbanks

"And we did go forth again in the wilderness, following the same direction, keeping in the most fertile parts of the wilderness, which were in the borders near the Red Sea.

"And it came to pass that we did travel for the space of many days, slaying food by the way, with our bows and our arrows, and our stones and our slings.

"And we did follow the directions of the ball, which led us in the more fertile parts of the wilderness."

I Nephi 16: 14-16